

Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1974 have been invoked on 29.10.1996 whereby the services of employees/doctors of the Central Government Hospitals have been declared as essential services to prohibit the strikes. This was done in the wake of the outbreak of Dengue when all hospitals had to function at peak capacity.

(c) to (e). A section of Group 'C' and 'D' employees of Safdarjung Hospital were on strike from 17th October, 1996 to 15th November 1996. The strike was called off on 16th November, 1996 following an Agreement with the hospital.

(f) and (g). A committee has been set up in the Ministry to take a view on the proposals of the Safdarjung Hospital inter-alia relating to the maintenance of the hospital premises/ward/OTs and staff grievances relating to residential accommodation and career prospects etc. which require the approval of the Ministry.

(h) The information is as under :

AIIMS	4
Safdarjung Hospital	3
Dr. R.M.L. Hospital	1
Lady Hardinge Medical College and Associated Hospital.	3

(i) There is well laid out procedure for tackling strike situation which is invariably adopted to avoid inconvenience to the patients and public.

(j) Does not arise.

#### Appointment of Religious Teachers in Army

1500. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether religious teachers are appointed for every unit of the army;

(b) if so, the number of JCO's Jawans for which religious teacher is appointed; and

(c) the number of sanctioned posts of such religious teachers, religion-wise, in the army as on April 1, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Religious Teachers namely Pandits, Granthis and Buddhist Monks are authorised for Units/Formations of the Army at the scale of one Religious Teacher for each class, provided the posted strength of Junior Commissioned Officers, Other Ranks (including Recruits and Trainees) of that class at the station is not less than 120. Padres (Roman Catholic or Protestant) and Maulvis are provided in Units/Formations for each class having not less than 120 Roman Catholic or Protestant Christians/Muslims (including Recruits and Trainees) at the station. Padres (Roman Catholic or Protestant) can also be provided

separately for a class to which majority of the Christians belong.

2. A total of 1852 Religious Teachers are authorised in Indian Army as on April 1, 1996. The details religion-wise are as under :

(a)	Pandit (Hindu)	-	1568
(b)	Granthi (Sikh)	-	194
(c)	Maulvi (Muslim)	-	52
(d)	Padre (Christian)	-	27
(e)	Budhist Monk	-	11
Total			1852

[Translation]

#### Capacity of Ships

1501. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shipment capacity is constantly declining in the country, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the tonnage of goods transported by the vessels of the Shipping Corporation of India during 1995-96 as compared with 1994-95; and

(c) the profit earned during 1995-96 as compared with 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The volume of goods transported by the vessels of Shipping Corporation of India Limited during 1995-96 as compared to 1994-95 is as under :

Year	In Million Tonnes
1994-95	34.906
1995-96	45.262

(c) The net profit earned by Shipping Corporation of India during 1995-96 as compared to 1994-95 is as under :

1994-95	Rs. 201.39 crores
1995-96	Rs. 323.40 crores

[English]

#### Strike in Safdarjung Hospital

1502. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Safdarjung Hospital Karamchari Sangharsh Union, New Delhi has submitted a memorandum against the rampant corruption in the hospital and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the hospital authorities, no specific cases have been mentioned in the memorandum.

#### **Ahmedabad-Baroda Expressway**

1503. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of construction work of Ahmedabad-Baroda Expressway;

(b) whether it is a fact that the revised estimate is still pending with his ministry for approval resulting in the hampering of the progress of the project; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action the Government propose to take for expeditious approval of the revised estimate?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The progress of bridge and road works in about 27.47% and 30.95% respectively. For the road works, the contractor has been expelled and the possibility of taking up the balance work on Build Operate and Transfer basis is being explored.

(b) and (c). The revised estimate as projected needs reconciliation in light of (a) above.

#### **Compensation to Villagers of Visakhapatnam District**

1504. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :

SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to acquire land in Mariapalem village in Visakhapatnam for setting up Base Victualling Yard project of Indian Navy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether funds have been released for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the action taken to pay adequate compensation at market rate to the owners of land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (d). Land measuring 25.41 acres in Mariapalem village in Visakhapatnam for setting up Base Victualling Yard Project of Indian Navy has been acquired under Requisition and Acquisition of Immovable Property (RAIP) Act, 1952.

The sanctioned amount in accordance with the provisions of the said Act/Rules has been placed at the disposal of the Collector, Visakhapatnam who in turn has already disbursed the same to concerned villagers.

#### **National Coastal Protection Project Kerala**

1505. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether sea coasts of Kerala are under constant destruction and erosion;

(b) whether a project for coastal protection 'National Coastal Protection Project' has been submitted by Government of Kerala;

(c) if so, the salient features of the project including the cost;

(d) whether the Union Government will be providing any grant;

(e) if so, the quantum thereof; and

(f) the time schedule for expeditious completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) According to assessment made by the State Government, about 480 Km of the coast out of a total coastal length of 560 km in the State is vulnerable to erosion.

(b) and (c). Proposals have been received from Government of Kerala in January 1996 for inclusion in the consolidated project proposals on 'National Coastal Protection Project' under preparation at the centre covering all maritime states. The Kerala Government proposal, at an estimated cost of Rs. 346.50 crore, envisages construction of 126.288 km of new sea wall, reformation of 99.958 km of old sea wall and research and development activities.

(d) and (e). Central loan assistance to the States for anti sea erosion works has been discontinued beyond 1991-92 as decided by the National Development Council. However, the Working Group on Flood Management for Ninth Plan has recommended providing funds in Central Sector on a matching basis for anti sea erosion works of critical nature for all coastal States.

(f) The time schedule would be decided on finalisation of consolidated project report incorporating proposals from all maritime States.

[Translation]

#### **Educational Films**

1506. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the procedure being followed by the University Grants Commission for making educational films.